

REMARKS

Claims 1-13, 15-17, 19, and 20 are pending.

Before receiving the present Office Action of December 2, 2003, Applicants filed an Amendment on December 17, 2003. In that Amendment, Applicants canceled claims 14 and 18, and amended claim 6.

Herein, Applicants have further amended claims 6 and 19.

I. Claim Objections

Applicants thank the Examiner for withdrawing the objection to claims 5 and 11.

The Examiner objected to claims 14 and 18 under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claims 1 and 7, respectively. Because Applicants have canceled claims 14 and 18, the Examiner's objection is overcome.

II. Claim Rejections

Applicants thank the Examiner for withdrawing the rejections of claims 2-5 and 8-12.

The Examiner rejected claims 6 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. The Examiner indicated that these claims would be allowable if properly rewritten. As amended, these claims are now believed to be allowable. In claim 6, the language has been clarified to indicate when non-saturation and super magnetization conditions respectively occur. Claim 19 refers to particles, not "fine" particles, which find antecedent basis in claim 8.

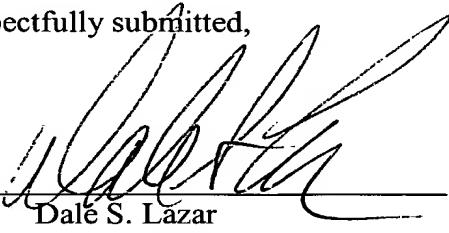
Applicants thank the Examiner for withdrawing the rejections of claims 1-3, 7-9, 13, 15-17, 19, and 20.

III. Conclusion

All outstanding matters having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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